

## Meet the students running for SGA president

By Sarah Siock and Amethyst Martinez

**W**ITH Rider approaching a pivotal point in its history as it faces tension between the faculty and administration, possible program cuts and potential layoffs, three students feel they are up for the task of leading the student body during this time and have launched campaigns for the Student Government Association's (SGA) student body president.

This year's candidates are juniors Andrew Bernstein, Grace Kohansby and Jordan Jones, and each hope to bring a unique perspective to the role. The Rider News hosted interviews with the candidates on April 4 where they were allotted 20 minutes to answer questions regarding topics such as Westminster Choir College (WCC) students' grievances with the Lawrenceville campus, university finances and diversity at Rider. Additionally, the candidates also had the chance to speak to the student body at a debate hosted by SGA on March 31.

### Role of SGA

Regarding previous leadership experience Bernstein pointed to his current position as vice president of University Affairs for SGA. He also served as chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, is a member of the Rider Democrats club and a campus tour guide.

"The role of SGA is to advocate for what students want no matter how much we agree or disagree or are a part of that organization that's advocating for it. It's really to enhance the student experience, and we do that by listening," said Bernstein, a political science major.

When discussing WCC, all candidates voiced a desire to amplify the voices of Westminster students and relay their concerns to administrators. If elected Jones said he would create more roles within SGA where students could serve as ambassadors for WCC.

"I want to have everyone who possibly can and will be able to help me make sure that WCC's comfortable," said Jones, a computer science major.

Jones has served for SGA in the past as the sophomore class president for one semester and was on the freshmen class executive board during his first year at Rider. He is also a part of the Male Leadership Academy (MLA) on campus, where he is a student assistant and representative for the junior class. Outside of Rider, Jones is a pastor at a church in Ewing, New Jersey, where he is the head of the audio and visual ministry and a youth director.



Andrew Xon/The Rider News

From left to right, juniors **Andrew Bernstein**, **Grace Kohansby** and **Jordan Jones** are the 2022 candidates for SGA student body president.

One of Jones' talking points was the importance of a well-balanced correspondence with the administration.

"I feel as though it should be a mirror relationship," said Jones. "It should be equal, and that they should look at us as if we're not just students."

 **SEE STUDENTS PAGE 2**

## One month later: How Rider has changed since mask mandate removal

By Shaun Chornobroff

**W**HEN walking into any building of Rider's campus on March 5, whether it be the Student Recreation Center, the gym or the campus bookstore, there was something largely missing that had become a mainstay on campus since the COVID-19 pandemic first broke out in the country almost two years before.

The missing item? Face masks.

March 5 was the day Rider's repeal of the campus-wide mask mandate went into full effect, meaning students and faculty were no longer required to wear a face-covering when inside buildings on campus.

Rider's Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Planning and Secretary to the Board Debbie Stasolla, who serves as one of the leaders of COVID-19 implementation team said, "I have not heard much in the way of pushback. Honestly from what I can tell, the majority of the community is happy to have that choice [to wear masks]."

In the month since the mask mandate was repealed, Rider has seen 16 positive cases, as of April 1, according to the university dashboard that is updated every Friday.

The dashboard only displayed two positive COVID-19 cases in the first three weeks following the mask mandate being repealed, although one of those weeks was the spring break.

Anthony Corbi, a junior sports media major at Rider, tried to organize a protest against the mask mandate at the beginning of the school year.

Corbi said he felt relief when finding out the mask mandate was lifted at the university.

"Just from a sort of mental health standpoint, that definitely makes things a lot easier," Corbi said. "... It's really difficult to engage with people when everyone's wearing a mask. I've found that oftentimes when there is a mask mandate and I'm indoors with someone or a group of people, I often don't feel like I'm completely

there because people can't read my facial expressions, or people misunderstand what I say because they can't properly hear me because of the mask."

Over the past month, Corbi has noticed a stark difference in the atmosphere of his classes.

"I think [classes] have definitely become more interactive. It's easier to hear people, it's easier to give a presentation about something, whereas before it was standing up in the classroom with a mask on, it almost felt like people that would hide behind their cue cards when they were giving a presentation in high school," Corbi said.

From March 26 to April 1, the week after students and faculty returned from the spring break, the dashboard displayed 14 positive cases; 10 from students and four from faculty, bringing the spring semester total to 76 cases.

Stasolla explained the cases the university has been dealing with are relatively mild and attributes the rise to the new variant continuing to spread its way around the state.

"I expect that number to be about that much, give or take for this week as well," Stasolla said.

The slight uptick in cases at the university coincides with a rise in New Jersey and Mercer County, where Rider is located. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention lists Mercer County as low community level of COVID-19 on its website, as of April 5.

Despite the fact Stasolla is not overly worried about the rise in cases, she did stress the university community needs to continue being conscious in terms of the virus and its spread, as well as follow the implementation team's guidelines.

Stasolla said, "I believe strongly if we continue doing those kinds of things as responsible members of the university community, then I believe we can get through the rest of this semester quite successfully, with the least disruption possible."

**INSIDE**

### IN THE DUGOUT

Rider's hitting coach, Lee Lipinski, gets praise from players.

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### BERNSTEIN FOR PRESIDENT

The Rider News Editorial Board endorses Andrew Bernstein for SGA president.

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### SPECTRUM SOIREE

SPECTRUM hosts prom for LGBTQ+ students and allies.

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## SECURITY BRIEFS

BY SHAUN CHORNOBROFF

### Suspicious male

A late-night snack. On April 1 at 10:52 p.m., Public Safety was dispatched to the Bart Luedeke Center for a report of a suspicious male wearing jeans and a Disney T-shirt. Upon arrival, Public Safety did not find anyone who matched the description, and proceeded to talk to the individual who made the complaint. They were unable to locate him in the building. Public Safety checked the security cameras and located him at the vending machines. He then left the building and campus with no issues.

### Car accident

Bumper cars. On April 1 at 4:18 p.m., Public Safety was dispatched to the gated administration parking lot. Upon arrival, they noticed a university vehicle backed into a staff member's vehicle. No one was injured and no police were requested.

- Information provided by Public Safety Capt. Matthew Babcock

## CORRECTION

A March 30 article in The Rider News incorrectly stated the possible return date for Kappa Alpha Psi's Rho Xi chapter after its three-year suspension. The chapter has the ability to petition to have the suspension lifted on Sept. 4, 2024. The article also incorrectly stated the years the chapter faced hazing allegations. The chapter faced allegations in 2017 and 2019, but investigations found no conclusive evidence of hazing. In the fall of 2021, an investigation determined that there was significant evidence of hazing, including physical beating and sleep deprivation, and the chapter was suspended. The same article suggested there are only four sororities on Rider's campus. Four sororities have designated housing on campus but a total of nine sororities are recognized by Rider University. Five fraternities are recognized by Rider, but none currently have on-campus designated housing.

# The three student candidates discuss their goals if elected

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

### Communication with students

Jones also wants to bridge the gap between SGA and the student body to ensure all student voices are heard.

"There's a little bit of a breakdown in communication. ... I feel as though there are students who feel as though SGA aren't living up to what they say they are, not really supporting the people, not really getting things done or putting things in the right perspective, and I want to say that, [at] SGA, we do the best we can. ... But I just want the student body and the SGA to have a trust and loyalty aspect there where you can trust the SGA," said Jones.

The candidates recognized that communicating administrative processes such as academic prioritization need to be at the forefront of their presidential terms. Kohansby, a political science major, said she would advocate for full transparency and aim to explain complex topics to students. Kohansby also said that through her leadership experience as a substitute teacher, embedded tutor and secretary of Rider's political science club she has learned how to adapt and anticipate student needs.

"I think that having students advocate for students to administration is really important. So people who go here understand what these concerns that students bring to the table. I think that having that voice is super important, just making sure that there is a direct link between SGA and continuing a direct link between SGA and the administration," said Kohansby.

Bernstein also spoke on the impact he hopes to leave on Rider if elected. He said his previous work through SGA, such as adding lockers to the commuter lounge and expanding free feminine hygiene projects in bathrooms, are examples of meaningful change that can occur through the student government. He added that wheelchair accessibility on campus and creating a diversity and inclusion requirement in the core curriculum would be a focus during his term.

"I want to be able to say that I left a visible impact on the student experience and that I was able to not only advocate for student needs but visibly provide for student needs," said Bernstein.

### SGA's responsibilities

The candidates also touched upon SGA's responsibilities of speaking up for students when meeting with administrators. Kohansby said she would push for administrators to attend forums where WCC students could express their concerns.

"We don't want to only hear the watered-down version of things ... We need to be making sure [administrators] fully understand the urgency," said Kohansby.

Bernstein acknowledged the importance of SGA maintaining a relationship with the administration but noted that disagreements may occur.


"We also need to be able to at the same time challenge things that we disagree with. I'm of the mindset that there's no use in sitting in a meeting with administration, and you're agreeing with everything they say ..." said Bernstein. "We are responsible as SGA members for being polite as you might be in any other professional meeting but there does come a time where you need to push back a little bit on things that might negatively affect the student experience."

Adrienne Unfreed/ The Rider News

## A look at Rider's SGA presidential candidates

### Andrew Bernstein


*Candidate #1*



**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Political Science  
**Leadership Experience and Involvement Rider:** Current SGA Vice President of University Affairs, Previous chair of the Academic Affairs Committee and senator for SGA, Member of the Rider Democrats club, Campus tour guide, Embedded tutor, Leadership development program, Fellow of the Rebovich Institute  
**What is SGA's role on campus?**  
"To advocate for what students want no matter how much we agree or disagree or are a part of that organization that's advocating for it. It's really to enhance the student experience and we do that by listening. In a very real sense, it's just how can we make this campus better than it was when it started."

### Jordan Jones


*Candidate #2*




**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Computer Science  
**Leadership Experience and Involvement Rider:** Pastor at church in Ewing, New Jersey, Previous SGA sophomore class president, Previous SGA executive board for freshmen class, Student representative for junior class of the EOP Male Leadership Academy  
**What is SGA's role on campus?**  
"I would describe SGA as a voice, an outlet and an impact. I would describe it as a place where things can get done. Opportunities are made, and positions are filled. ... We make sure that the students are happy and the administration too. That they're working together, we're bridging that gap. We're making sure that everybody is understanding what pain we're in, what our happiness is, what our sadness is. What all we need to do to survive and what we need to do to succeed."

### Grace Kohansby

*Candidate #3*



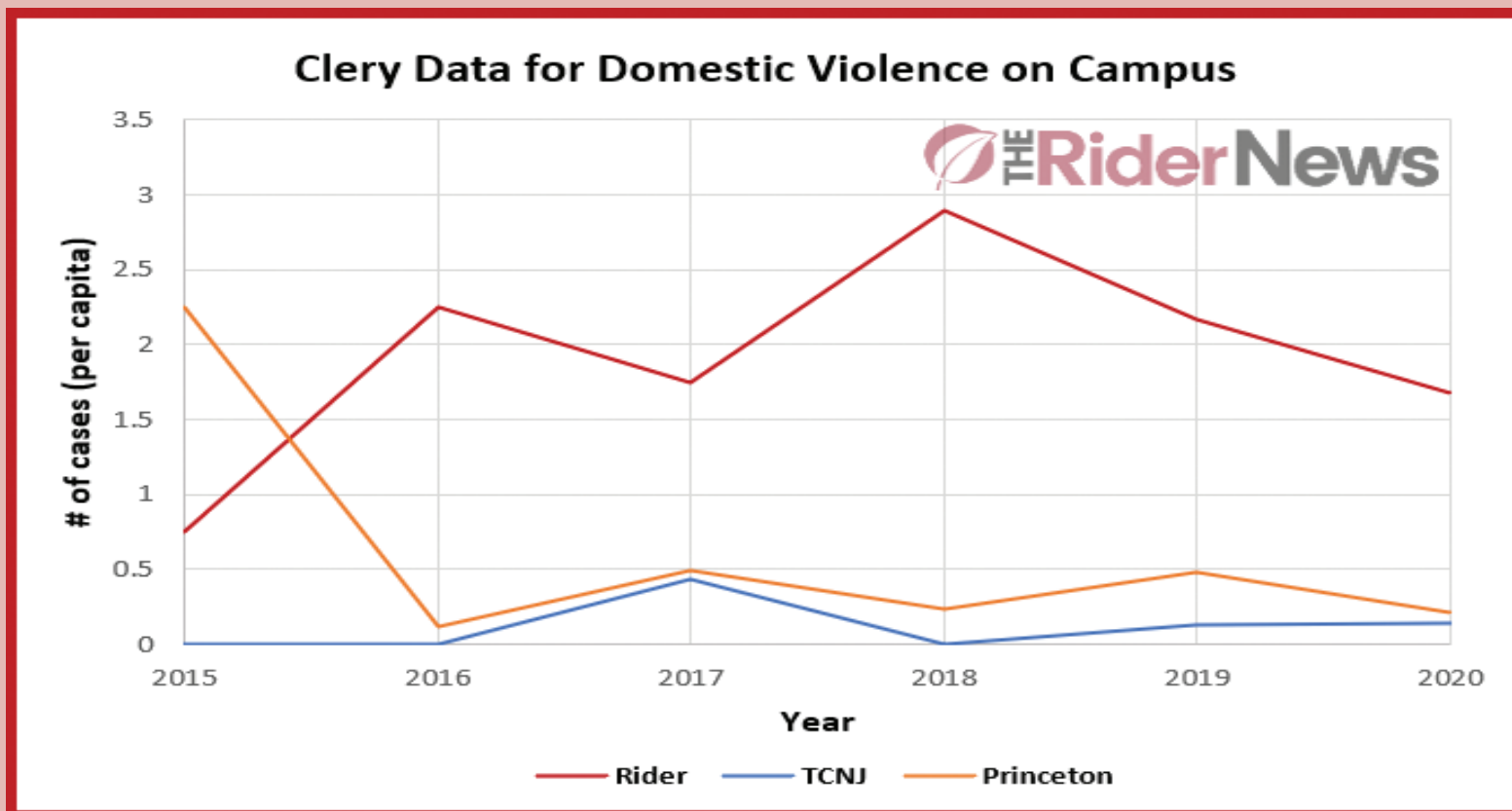
**Year:** Junior  
**Major:** Political Science  
**Leadership Experience and Involvement Rider:** Substitute teacher, Embedded tutor, Model UN, Secretary of the political science club  
**What is SGA's role on campus?**  
"Making sure that students are heard. The issues that affect students and affect the most students are addressed by this body and making sure that we continue that by advocating for all students. Not just all students, but students that need people to listen to them the most. Any students who are part of affinity groups that feel like they're not being listened to ... making sure that there is space made for them."



Voting for the SGA student body president, executive board members and select finance board representatives closes on April 6. Results will be announced at SGA's student senate meeting on April 7 at 11:30 a.m. in Sweigart 115.

See page 8 for The Rider News' presidential endorsement.





Adrienne Unfreed/ The Rider News

# Domestic violence awareness makes impact at Rider

By Sarah Siock, Amethyst Martinez, Allison Polhemus, Danielle Tyson and Luke Lombardi

**A**CCORDING to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), nearly 10 million women and men are physically abused by an intimate partner each year. Students at colleges and universities, including Rider, are no exception.

College-aged women are particularly vulnerable to domestic violence. A 2009 study from the U.S. Department of Justice found that females between the ages of 18 and 24 had the highest rates of intimate partner violence. Rider exemplifies these national statistics, as the university has consistently reported domestic violence offenses at its Lawrenceville campus over the last six years, according to annual campus safety reports.

## Domestic violence at Rider

The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act requires all colleges and university campuses to disclose information regarding crime statistics on or near campuses annually, including domestic violence.

The most recent Clery Report shows six incidents of domestic violence occurred at Rider in 2020, which is a decline from 10 in 2019 and 11 in 2018. However, the number of domestic violence incidents in 2018 and 2019 was higher compared to the previous three years. Rider reported seven incidents of domestic violence in 2017, nine in 2016 and three in 2015.

Rider’s Director of Public Safety James Waldon said there is not one succinct reason that would cause the number of domestic violence incidents to increase.

“There’s no rhyme or reason for those types of [crimes]. Those aren’t the types of crimes that there is rhyme or reason because they’re so personal,” said Waldon.

However, Waldon said the drop in 2020 compared to 2019 and 2018 could be due to fewer people living on campus because of the coronavirus pandemic, causing an overall decline in crime. Last year, according to Data USA, 3,600 students lived on campus, compared to 4,600 in 2019.

When looking locally, Rider has higher per capita rates of domestic violence than neighboring universities also based in Mercer County, New Jersey. In 2020 the rate of on-campus domestic violence was 1.67 incidents per 1,000 students at Rider. Meanwhile, at Princeton University the rate of on-campus domestic violence was 0.21 incidents per 1,000 students. According to Data USA, Princeton has slightly higher enrollment numbers with 4,700 students enrolled in 2020.

Rider also has higher per capita rates of domestic violence incidents compared to The College of New Jersey (TCNJ). In 2020, TCNJ reported 0.14 incidents per 1,000 students with 7,100 enrolled. Pre-pandemic, Rider also had the highest per capita rate among the three colleges with 2.17 incidents per 1,000 students in 2019. The same year, TCNJ reported 0.13 incidents per 1,000 students and Princeton had a rate of 0.48.

Waldon said he was unable to determine why nearby universities have lower rates of domestic violence due to not being familiar with their reporting processes. Princeton and TCNJ declined to comment on domestic violence at their campuses.

## Prevention leads to uptick

Waldon did say an increase in reports of domestic violence could be the result of students being more willing to report the crime.

“The first thing I’ll always warn everybody is when you do crime prevention work it’s sort of an oxymoron. If you’re really doing your crime prevention work well, crime actually increases. Why is that? People feel more comfortable about reporting. It could be because we have so many different ways to report and people feel so comfortable,” said Waldon.

Waldon said students have the option to report incidents of domestic violence to Public Safety or Rider’s Title IX Office. Those who file a complaint involving domestic violence or sexual harassment are offered supportive measures including no-contact orders and Rider’s counseling services.

“That’s why there are multiple ways of reporting, because not everybody is comfortable coming to Public Safety. ... The one thing I love about this campus

versus other campuses I’ve worked on is just about any office you walk into will get you to the help and the services that you need,” said Waldon.

Jaime Wright, who is the assistant director in the Office of Community Standards and oversees Alcohol/Drug and Sexual Assault Prevention (ASAP) education at Rider, agreed that the more resources available to students may make them more likely to report. She pointed out that Rider has a partnership with Womanspace, a Lawrenceville nonprofit organization that provides services to individuals and families impacted by domestic and sexual violence. Rider also participates in Domestic Violence Awareness Month which happens every October.

Wright noted that many students are aware of the prevalence of sexual violence on college campuses but are sometimes unsure how to respond when they witness it in person. She said the ASAP team is working toward promoting bystander intervention regarding domestic violence. She explained that a partner constantly encouraging their significant other to skip class or isolating them from their friends can be potential signs of an unhealthy relationship, and in some cases, slowly escalate to dating or domestic violence.

“That’s one of the things that we’re slowly starting to incorporate in our conversations is educating the community with a set of tools as a bystander. What can you do? What can you say? What are the resources you have when you’re noticing something your friend is going through or if your friend is the individual potentially causing harm?” Wright asked.

## National attention

Waldon explained that no matter who a report is filed to, all incidents of domestic violence are reviewed by the Title IX Office. Thomas Johnson, director at Title IX and of Equal Opportunity Compliance, said the uptick in domestic violence incidents at Rider could also be due to greater national attention on sexual harassment.

For example, in 2017 the #MeToo movement gained widespread attention, with women sharing stories of sexual harassment across the internet and other outlets. In 2018, the year following the movement, Rider reported 11 incidents of domestic violence, the highest number of incidents within the past six years.

Johnson said, “There’s always a possibility people are more willing to speak when people become more educated about what they’re seeing.”

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Adrienne Unfreed/ The Rider News

# Stalking offenses at Rider compared to local colleges

By **Tori Pender**

**A**LEXA Goyden, a junior double major in communications studies and acting, has been stalked during her college career. During her sophomore year, Goyden was in a year-long relationship with a non-Rider student. Goyden said, "I was being stalked right after I broke up with him." She continued, "I didn't realize it at the time, as it just seemed like someone who just couldn't get over a breakup, but in late October, it escalated really fast, and that's when I realized something was wrong."

## At Rider

Stalking offenses are not uncommon at Rider; from 2018 through 2020, there were seven incidents on campus.

All statistics in this report were obtained from the campus safety report, under The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. All colleges and universities that receive federal aid must disclose annual campus crime statistics.

Rider Associate Vice President Kristine Brown said in an email, "As a community, we do not condone harassment or discrimination of any kind, including stalking. We also take allegations of crimes such as stalking very seriously."

Even though Goyden's ex-boyfriend was not a Rider student, he lived nearby in Ewing, New Jersey.

Goyden explained that since her classes were virtual at that time, her safety on campus was not a concern until the fall 2021 semester.

## Mercer County

When comparing Rider to other colleges and universities in Mercer County like The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Princeton and Thomas Edison State University, Rider data compares to TCNJ, with seven offenses from 2018 to 2020.

Meanwhile, Princeton had eight offenses and Thomas Edison State University had zero during the same time.

Chelsea Jacoby, TCNJ's Title IX coordinator said, "TCNJ's Office of Title IX and Sexual Misconduct and the Office of Anti-Violence Initiatives have developed a number of resources and efforts around increasing students' awareness on how to identify stalking behaviors, how to safely and effectively communicate boundaries and intervene if necessary."

Princeton and Thomas Edison State University officials did not respond to requests for comment.

Brown explained, "We put a lot of effort into educating our community about these types of issues, as well as offering comprehensive support and resources."

## Escalation

Goyden debated having law enforcement involved when she started receiving multiple phone calls a day and threatening messages involving mentions of suicide and murder.

"Everything just kinda kept pushing, like 'we gotta do it.' But we [her parents and her] kept putting it off because finals were coming up," explained Goyden.

When she arrived home at the end of the 2021 spring semester, "He showed up at my house, uninvited and unannounced," said Goyden.

When he arrived, he repeatedly tried to enter the locked house.

Goyden explained, "Right after that, I went straight to the police department and was like 'I need a restraining order, please help.'"

For Goyden, this situation will soon be behind her, as of March 6, a temporary restraining order (TRO) was enforced. Rider Public Safety has a copy of the TRO, along with a photo of her ex, in case anything were to happen while Goyden is at Rider. On April 5, Goyden won her case, granting a restraining order against her ex-boyfriend.

"When I was being stalked, it was immense fear, all the time. Now it's like, sometimes fear," said Goyden.

Brown said, "At Rider, we have been very thoughtful in how we can bring increased awareness to issues such as stalking, including educating our campus community on warning signs, how to report an issue and where to turn for help. Education is really the most important step all universities can take to raise awareness and understanding of these important issues."



Photo courtesy of Alexa Goyden

Alexa Goyden, a junior double major in communications studies and acting, has a temporary restraining order in place against her stalker.

## The Rider News COVID-19 COUNTER

### Confirmed Cases:

Last updated: April 1 2022



Cumulative total of laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Rider University (Since January 2022)

### COVID-19 cases reported to Rider University by week:

Month/Year	Student Case Reports	Employee Case Reports
March 26- April 1	10	4
March 12-25	2	0

Rider University reports its testing numbers and other coronavirus statistics every Friday at [rider.edu/dashboard](https://rider.edu/dashboard)

### On Campus Student Testing:

Weeks	Health Center	Surveillance Testing
March 26- April 1	10	81
March 12-25	12	83
March 5- 11	12	90
Feb. 26- March 4	8	124
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1081</b>

Information courtesy of [rider.edu](https://rider.edu)

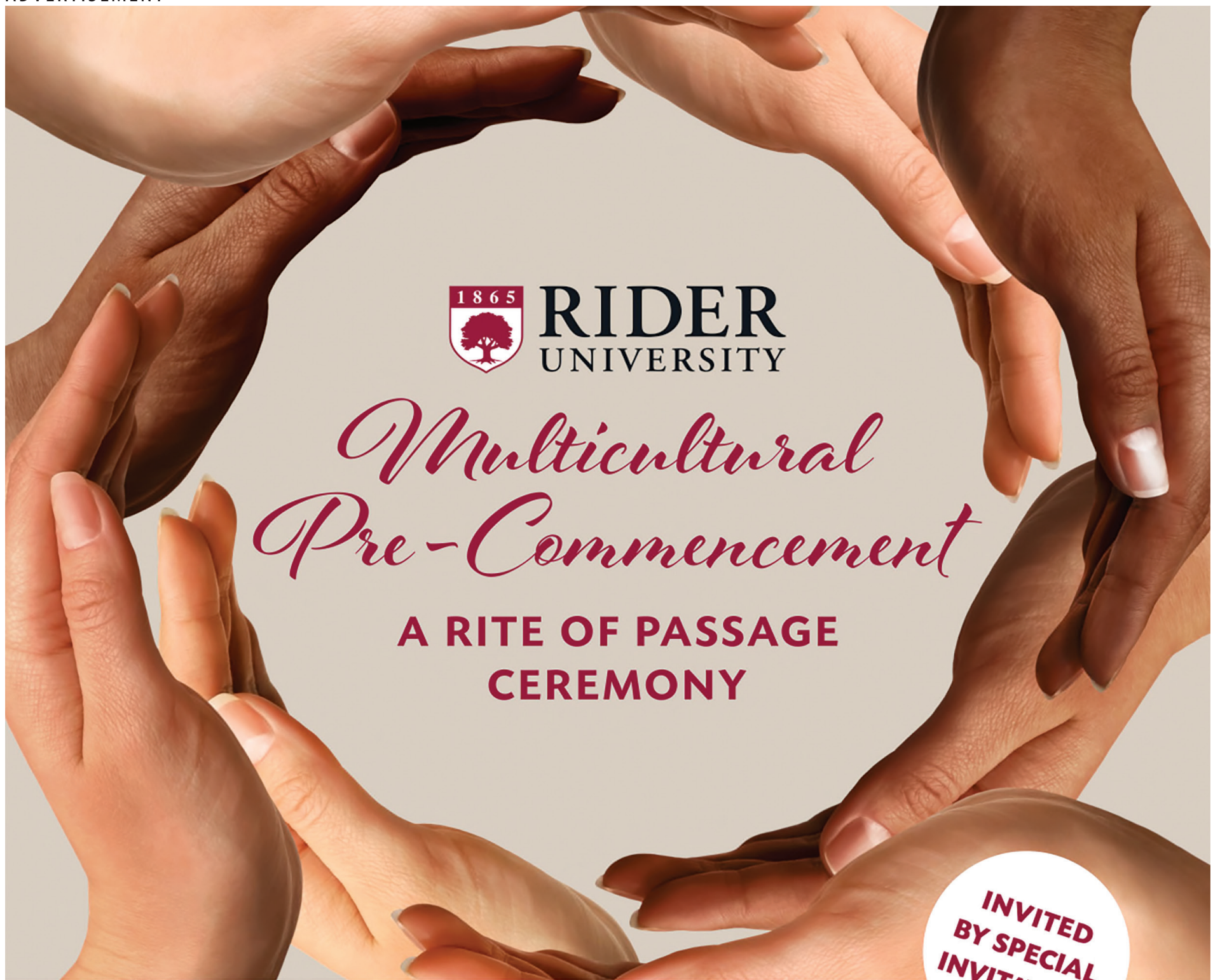
### Student Quarantine and Isolation:

Students in quarantine have been identified as close contacts of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, are completing their travel advisory required quarantine or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and are awaiting test results. Students in isolation have tested positive for COVID-19. This week there are:

- 3** student(s) quarantining on campus
- 8** student(s) quarantining off campus
- 6** student(s) isolating on campus
- 2** student(s) isolating off campus



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Pre-Commencement*

**A RITE OF PASSAGE  
CEREMONY**

**INVITED  
BY SPECIAL  
INVITATION**

**Monday, April 25**

**5:30 p.m. | Practice Gym**  
PRE-GATHERING FOR GRADUATES

**6:30 p.m. | Alumni Gym**  
DOORS OPEN

**7 to 8:30 p.m. | Alumni Gym**  
CEREMONY

**8:30 p.m. | Alumni Gym**  
DESSERT RECEPTION

The mission of this pre-commencement ceremony is to celebrate the accomplishments of undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students of color at Rider University including: Black/African Americans, Chicanx/Hispanic/Latinx, Asian/Asian Americans, Native Americans, Hawaiian/Pacific Islanders, and Multi-Ethnic, who have successfully completed an undergraduate, graduate, or postgraduate degree. This event recognizes their achievement through resolute persistence, hard work, and dedication to the advancement of an enriched educational experience at Rider University. Each graduate will receive the CDI Medallion to wear around their necks on their graduation regalia, commemorating this special occasion.

Graduating students, RSVP here:  
[rider.edu/student-ceremony-form](https://rider.edu/student-ceremony-form)

CENTER FOR  
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION  
Unity + Diversity = University

Faculty, staff and alumni, RSVP here:  
[rider.edu/ceremony-form](https://rider.edu/ceremony-form)



# Arts & Entertainment

## Dancing the night away at SPECTRUM Soirée



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

Guest **Talie Meza** (left), **Victoria Witerska**, a senior psychology major (middle) and **Metis Hamilton**, a senior psychology major (right).



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

**Klaudine Bessasparis**, a freshman English major (left), with her friend **Sydney Bernstein**, a sophomore psychology major (right).

By **Kaitlyn McCormick**

**B**EHIND the rainbow-wrapped doors of the Cavalla Room in the Bart Luedeke Center, students danced, sang and enjoyed each other's company during the SPECTRUM Soirée on March 31, a dance for LGBTQ students and their allies, hosted by Rider's SPECTRUM Pride Alliance.

The invitation called for students to dress as casual or fancy as they liked, and attendees obliged, sporting a wide variety of outfits ranging from dresses and blazers to jeans and T-shirts.

Senior psychology major Metis Hamilton, SPECTRUM's president, said that the idea to have a dance primarily for LGBTQ people was an idea that the club had been fostering since 2019, but the pandemic made it difficult to come to fruition.

"Proms in general are just very heteronormative institutions. Some schools have rules where you can't show up with a queer partner," Hamilton said, before also mentioning that the students at Rider, like many freshmen and sophomores across the country, did not get a typical prom if any. "I just wanted to give, particularly the freshmen and sophomores, because I knew that would be the bulk of who came ... a break."

Senior technical theater major Christy Akinsanmi, SPECTRUM's vice president said, "On campus, we've never really had a queer prom of any sort, and I feel like especially considering the pandemic and how many people lost out on that experience. This is something that could really fill a need in our community."

Around 40 students were in attendance throughout the night, finding community within the rainbow-decorated room. Attendees enjoyed hoagie trays and pizza from Lawrenceville's own Varsity Pizza, as well as a plethora of desserts. Chris Brandt, a Rider alum who studied music theory and composition primarily on the Westminster campus, DJed the event along with his wife, keeping the crowd moving between queer hits, including girl in red's "i wanna be your girlfriend," Lady Gaga's "Born This Way" and Katy Perry's "I Kissed a Girl," and party favorites like DJ Casper's "Cha Cha Slide" and V.I.C.'s "Wobble."

The soirée was a success in the eyes of students as well. Junior public relations major Keyonna Murray lauded the event for giving LGBTQ students a space to connect.

"I just love any gathering with fellow LGBTQ people. I think it's really difficult to find safe spaces out there, especially where people are connecting on the aspect of our identity," Murray said. "Sometimes I just want to be able to connect with people on the basis of my sexuality, and so I think that having these types of events is really great because it gives you the chance to do that."

The dance was also open to the greater Rider community and friends of SPECTRUM members. Senior psychology major Victoria Witerska said that her friends in SPECTRUM were excited about the event and encouraged her to join them.

"Honestly, it has been super, super amazing," Witerska said of the soirée. "It has exceeded all of my expectations, and my expectations were already high. The food has been amazing, the music has been amazing, so I'm happy to be here."

As the windows of the Cavalla Room darkened along with the sunset, the partygoers continued to laugh, sing and dance into the night, illuminated by flashing lights from the DJ booth and glow-in-the-dark balloons.

*Tristan Leach is an editor for The Rider News and treasurer of SPECTRUM. Leach had no part in the writing or editing of this article.*



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

Students sit with their friends, talking and enjoying refreshments.



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

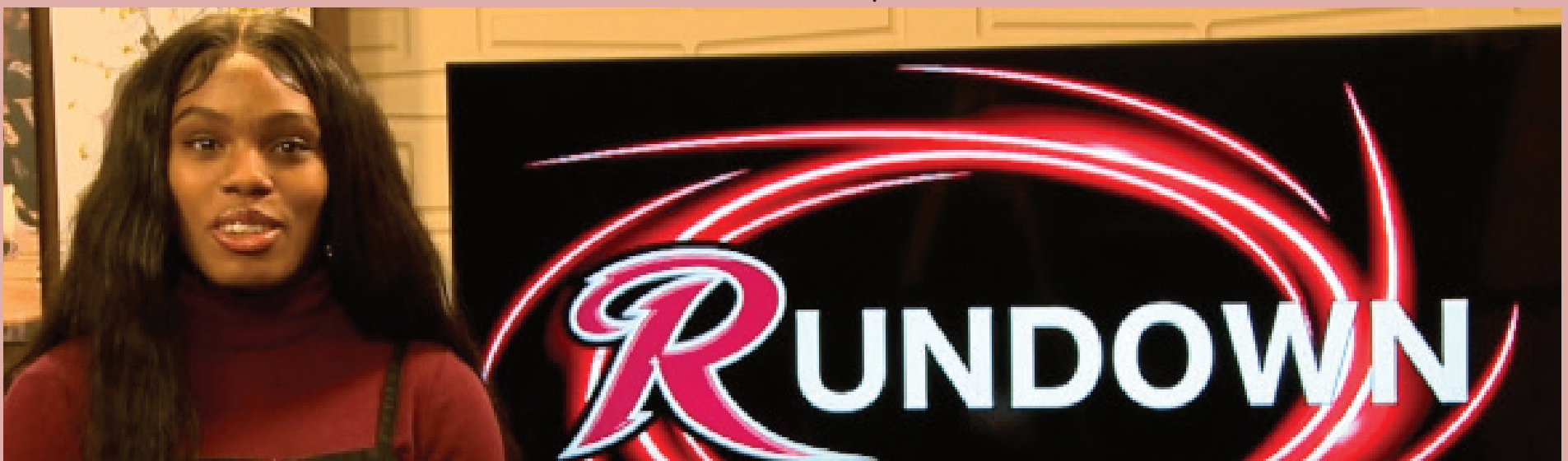
**Noemie Callanquin**, a freshman business major (left), plays with the light up balloons with her friend **Jaina Daclan**, a sophomore communication studies major (right).



Kaitlyn McCormick/The Rider News

SPECTRUM members enjoy food and drink at the first annual SPECTRUM soirée.





Danielle Tyson, a junior broadcast journalism major, hosts an episode filmed in Broadcast News Practicum.

## Broadcast News Practicum returns this fall

By Tristan Leach

**T**HE news anchor shuffles the papers they're holding. The lights over the cameras go dim, and the cameras start rolling. Another news episode is beginning to film.

This semester saw the return of the class Broadcast News Practicum.

The course is meant to teach broadcast journalism students how to be news reporters and how to operate behind the camera.

Scott Alboum, video technologies coordinator for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, teaches the class and other video production courses.

"It's a class where students in the class have taken some production classes before, and in this class, we've come together to do a news show. The news show is a news magazine style show," said Alboum.

The show is produced by the students and Alboum and teaches students how a show like "Entertainment Tonight" is put together. Each show features a news anchor behind a desk who presents the stories from the field, in this case, events, news and sports at Rider.

Junior broadcast journalism major Danielle Tyson said, "I chose to take this class because I took the first version of it. It was online though; it was the peak of COVID. I didn't get the full experience that I wanted."

The class returns based on where it fits into the curriculum; it has been a while since the class has been available to those interested in it. Many students expressed interest in the class when it was announced this past semester. They were specifically interested in what it could teach them when it comes to news and production.

"News on the college level, in terms of production that students can do in a studio setting, is pretty easy. In terms of having them go out and cover stories, go out to events, interview faculty members and having our studio set up like a news studio, the backbone for college news is there," said Alboum.

Along with the aspect of reporting and going out into the field comes the

production of the show. Students work as production assistants on the set, from running sound, to the cameras and the editing process after the show is filmed. The class is a hands-on experience.

Tyson said, "I love that everything is hands-on and we all get to do different jobs. There's editors, the anchor and we all get to explore and find stories."

Ultimately the students in this semester's class will film seven episodes that are eventually uploaded to YouTube; longer episodes are put out in parts. Unlike other news outlets at Rider, the content is not released until at least two weeks after filming. However, this does not keep the students from working hard and putting their all into the class.

Alboum said, "We're simulating what that news magazine environment would be, and we put something out that is pretty solid. We don't have the audience like The Rider News does. Traditionally we were just on this cable channel on campus that no one could see unless they had cable in the dorms. But it's more about the experience; it's less about delivering the news to an audience."

The class gained interest among students in communications, journalism and sports media. Students in the class smile happily when talking about it and how prepared they feel for their future in broadcasting.

Tyson said, "I think it's gonna be a really big help to my future because it doesn't only teach you how to work in front of the camera, but it also teaches you how to work behind the camera and all the editing skills you learn from it too."

## Student cancer survivor speaks before Relay for Life

By Hannah Newman

**A**LEX Long, a sophomore health science major and member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, gave the survivor speech at Rider's annual Relay for Life event which took place on April 2 and honored cancer survivors, their caregivers, those who have been affected or would like to contribute to the cause. This event is geared toward raising money for the American Cancer Society through team and individual fundraising of participants as well as games and activities during the event. This year, over \$25,000 was raised.

"The hardest part for me was wrapping my head around the fact that I had cancer. It was hard for me to say that word for such a long time," said Long, who survived a brain tumor and has been in remission since December 2019.

Long was diagnosed with a brain tumor in August 2019 but was living with symptoms of cancer for several months prior. Unable to keep anything down, not even water, led him to frequent hospital visits and the impression that this may have just been a gastric issue. However, an experience of fainting during this time frame provoked a reason for the hospital to conduct a brain scan where a tumor was discovered.

Long shared his reaction to this news and the mental setbacks he encountered.

"Being so young, I never thought that cancer would be in my near future. It was something I could never see being in this part of my life particularly," said Long.

This discovery was the official start to Long's journey of battling cancer. A life consisting of intense rehab, multiple surgeries and radiation was the ultimate test of resilience for Long. He turned his adversity into motivation to keep fighting, stayed on top of his treatments and the procedures that needed to be completed in order for his prior reality to return.

"After experiencing all of those things, I realized that this is my new life, that I was not going to be able to live life the same way I once did. I learned to become more willing to share my feelings and express my mental health state to my family. This really allowed them to assist me in staying sane," said Long.

The opportunity to speak at Relay for Life was proposed to Long as a result of his determination to convince others that the people that surround them, the opportunity to start a new day every morning and the physical freedom to do whatever one desires are all valuable parts of living that are often overlooked.

Junior human resource major and Chair of Relay for Life Jenna Muller explained her perception on Long's significance to the Relay community.

"I think having a student perspective connects the cause of relay to everyone there. Alex is such a light on campus. He is able to inspire everyone that they can make a difference in life whether they are a survivor, fighting or are supporting the cause. He is able to share his experience on a more personal level," said Muller.

Long also shared a message of encouragement to those who are living the life that he once did.

"When I had cancer, it felt like the world stopped. It felt like it stopped for me and nobody else, but that feeling does not last forever. Life will continue and you will be reintegrated into society again. That time will come," said Long.



Andrew Xon /The Rider News

Alex Long, a sophomore health science major, gives the survivor speech.



Andrew Xon /The Rider News

Students and staff participate in Relay for Life, a campus tradition.



# The Rider News endorses Andrew Bernstein for SGA president

**F**OLLOWING a year of continued impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, administrative tensions within the university and overwhelming rhetoric surrounding changes being made to Rider, it is only fitting that the next Student Government Association (SGA)'s student body president should be someone with the experience, tact and dedication to guide Rider students through their latest transitional period. For this reason, The Rider News's editorial board has chosen to endorse junior political science major Andrew Bernstein for SGA president.

## SGA experience and impact

Bernstein has a strong leadership background within the SGA as a senator, past chair of the Academic Affairs Committee and most recently the vice president for University Affairs. This extensive experience puts him in the unique position to build upon the work that the SGA is already doing and that he has helped influence, while also bringing ambitions for more opportunities to expand his initiatives as president.

Senior journalism major and The Rider News Executive Editor Sarah Siock said, "This is ... a pivotal point at the university. There's probably a lot of change coming, and I think that [Bernstein] would be the right person to lead that change and advocate for students along the way. And I think he also understands the responsibility that would be put on him and the role that he's supposed to have."

Just this year, Bernstein helped to oversee initiatives that brought lockers to the commuter lounge and free feminine hygiene products to bathrooms across campus.

Junior sports media major and The Rider News Managing Editor Shaun Chornobroff said, "I think Andrew's vision to actually have a visible impact [on the university] is something that this community needs right now. To not only make an impact now, but to set a precedent for the future that is desperately needed as we're in a tough time."

## A commitment to diversity

Expanding the diversity, equity and inclusion efforts on campus is a goal that Bernstein has been working toward within the current SGA administration and intends to bring forward into his potential term as president. In an interview with The Rider News editorial board on April 4, he also stressed the importance of including accessibility on campus for all students as a facet of this inclusion.

Sophomore journalism major and The Rider News Features and Entertainment Editor Tristan Leach said, "I think Andrew's movement on more inclusion and accessibility for our disabled persons on campus is really promising ... For us to hear that there is someone who wants to jump on that as soon as possible is ... really great."

Bernstein has been working on an intercultural competency project that would make diversity awareness a part of the gen-ed curriculum, and he plans to bring this initiative to his presidency, remaining hopeful in light of the recent merging of the Westminster College of the Arts and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences into the new College of Arts and Sciences.

## Handling university tension

Through his experience in SGA as well as his campaign initiatives for this 2022 election, Bernstein has shown a commitment to helping students better understand the larger changes happening at an administrative level, like Rider's CREDO partnership, prioritization and university debt. Bernstein plans to build upon the SGA's "Your Questions Answered" series on social media that outlines these complex ideas for students, and also stressed the importance of person-to-person interaction and education.

Bernstein has also expressed his dedication to better understand and shed light on the experiences of Westminster Choir College students throughout their shift onto the Lawrenceville campus.

At a time when the university is facing many challenges, the presence of SGA leadership must not only advocate for students but continue to make meaningful and impactful strides in bettering the student experience. The Rider News remains hopeful that Bernstein will be a guiding voice for students during these transitional and difficult periods.

*This editorial expresses the unanimous opinion of The Rider News Editorial Board. This week's editorial was written by Opinion Editor Kaitlyn McCormick*

*Kaitlyn McCormick*



Andrew Xon/ The Rider News

SGA presidential candidate **Andrew Bernstein** speaks to The Rider News.

## THE Rider News

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## SOPHOMORE SIGHTINGS

**I hadn't felt out of place until I got to Rider: a Latinx perspective**

**I** DIDN'T think identity was a big thing for me until I got to college. I grew up in a diverse town, about an hour away from Rider. Although a majority of the population in my hometown is white, there was still a mix of people from around the world. A real melting pot.

When I decided to go to Rider as a filmmaking, tv and radio major, I felt very fortunate. One reason was because I hadn't known many Hispanic/Latinx people, or women who identify as Hispanic/Latinx specifically who would go to school for such an "arbitrary" major (read with a pinch of sarcasm). But the main reason was because I was another first-generation Latinx kid who was pursuing higher education. However, my first year at Rider wasn't what I had expected it to be. It was nothing like the movies.

After a pandemic my freshman year, I decided to live on campus the first semester of my sophomore year. Again, nothing like a movie. It just felt like I was going to classes and passively living, unable to find where I would "fit in." It wasn't my best year academically either. I found some ease with fellow classmates who felt the same, but I also felt that I was disappointing myself and my community. Was I not a hardworking Latinx student? Was I stereotyping myself in some way? I'm supposed to work harder as a minority but I felt like I was failing at even being that.

During the second semester of my sophomore year, I decided to move off-campus. I also abruptly decided to become an English double major. The beginning of the spring semester felt the same as the fall semester, as I still didn't feel like I fit in. I stand out like a sore thumb in my film classes and some of my English classes. There have been many times when I've felt I wasn't good or smart enough to be there. I wish there was reassurance with some professors or advisers who looked like me to make me feel a little better (Shoutout to professor Vincent Toro, my creative writing teacher, super inspiring guy).

I went to a Latinx focus group Zoom meeting hosted by the university on March 31, and I was oddly pleased that my fellow Latinx and Hispanic peers felt the same way I did. It's an off-putting environment and we all just want to feel comfortable. I feel like that may be too much to ask for from a predominately white institution, but the staff does seem adamant about changing and becoming better. At least I hope they are.

The thing is though, there are clubs like Rider Latinas Unidas and Latin American Student Organization on campus that help to make people like me feel

more included and comfortable. It's just that meetings and events are so limited, and some people don't put in the effort to show up. I might be a hypocrite too since I can't always attend these events.

I don't think that I'm going to really find myself here at Rider, or ever really feel like I belong. But I'd like to think that it will help shape me for the better. Or at the very least, I hope it does.

*Ashley Morales,  
sophomore English and filmmaking, tv and radio major*



Kaitlyn D'Alessio/The Rider News

Some Latinx students have found it difficult to find a home at Rider.

## SOPHOMORE SIGHTINGS

**Reevaluating toxic relationships through the Kardashian-West divorce**

**K**ANYE West, who recently changed his legal name to Ye, wrote in a now-deleted Instagram post, "I can afford to hurt u." The post was directed at D.L. Hughley, an actor and comedian who claimed West's actions toward his ex-wife, Kim Kardashian, and her new boyfriend, comedian and Saturday Night Live (SNL) cast member Pete Davidson, were concerning and worrisome.

While parts of society might blame Kardashian for West's actions, asking why she did not just leave him before their relationship got serious, West has shown that he can be dangerous when it comes to this situation.

This February, West began using Instagram to bash Kardashian's parenting skills. Kardashian and West share four children together, and since their recent divorce in early March, West has been actively making posts about the reality star.

Dating rumors between Kardashian and Davidson started swirling after the couple shared a kiss during an SNL skit that aired in October. Once the dating rumors started, West began hating on Davidson, while still discussing Kardashian's parenting skills.

"Upon my wife's request please nobody do anything physical to hurt [Davidson] I'm going to handle this situation myself," West said in an Instagram caption.

On multiple occasions, West has mentioned hurting someone else. However, because of West's massive fan base, many people blame Kardashian for the situation. Kardashian's decision to divorce does not excuse West's actions. When situations of toxic relationships arise in the media, many people blame the victim. A question that is often asked is, "Why didn't you just leave earlier?" The reality is that leaving a toxic relationship is not that simple.

Despite Kardashian's fame and wealth, it still may have been difficult for her to leave such a relationship. With her very public life, Kardashian most likely has a bigger support system than someone who is not a celebrity. Going through a public breakup is still hard, and West's decision to blast the divorce all over social media does not help. But someone who is not in the spotlight at all might have a harder time getting support to leave the relationship.

Society needs to change the narrative when it comes to toxic relationships. Instead of blaming the victim, and questioning why they did not leave sooner, we should take a deeper look at the situation. Many people have theorized that West, who has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, may be struggling with his mental health during this time, which could have made it difficult for Kardashian to end their relationship. Kardashian herself asked fans to show "compassion and empathy" toward West due to the disorder back in February.

In another deleted Instagram post, West used a photo that showed pins on his daughter's backpack. He said, "This was on my daughter's backpack when I was 'allowed' to see her last week..." This post came after weeks of West's posts, and Kardashian finally decided to respond.

"Please stop with this narrative, you were just here this morning picking up the

kids for school," wrote Kardashian in the comment section of the post.

This post and Kardashian's reaction prove that we never know what is going on behind the scenes. Even with a family as famous as the Kardashians, what happens behind closed doors is unknown to the public. It may be very difficult for someone to leave a relationship if their significant other shows any signs of violence or instability.

The situation between West and Kardashian is happening in the public eye, which is a very different experience than a toxic situation happening without eyes at all. Kardashian and West each have their supporters, but, despite their fame, there should be no blame at all on the victim.

Many women and men deal with the struggles of toxic relationships every day. Society should erase the narrative of blaming the victim, for no one ever knows what the reality of the situation is.

*Cissie Brotzman,  
sophomore journalism major*



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

The public nature of the Kardashian-West divorce has invited mass speculation from the pair's respective fanbases



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BASEBALL

# Captain turned coach: Broncs hitting powered by Lipinski

By Logan VanDine

**T**HE Rider baseball team's hitting Coach Lee Lipinski has been a part of the program for the last 10 seasons, including five as an assistant coach.

Now, Lipinski is opening up about how he first got into baseball, why he chose to play at Rider and the success he has seen as a hitting coach over the last few seasons.

"I started playing when I was about 7 years old. Baseball is the kind of sport that I chose to play and could only play because I had a heart condition," Lipinski said.

"I had a bad valve. If I had too much strenuous activity the heart would work too much," the well-respected hitting coach said. "So I actually got a valve replacement surgery when I was 13 years old but at that point, I was already pretty much full-tilting to baseball."

The Baltimore native, whose primary position was catcher, spoke about what brought him to Rider to play at a collegiate level.

"Rider has a very rich baseball tradition. Coach [Barry] Davis sold me on it. This is my 10th year here, so I have been with Coach Davis for 10 years and I was lucky enough to be around good baseball minds, and Coach Davis is above and beyond all

from him was something that made me want to come," the former team captain said.

Lipinski played five seasons for the Broncs and compiled a solid resume. He batted .237 overall, hit 14 home runs, drove in 80 RBIs and was a part of three Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) tournament appearances.

Lipinski reflected on one fond moment he had playing on the team.

"In 2017, it was my fifth year and we had an up-and-down year and we were playing Youngstown State," Lipinski said. "We needed Canisius to beat Niagara two out of three to get into the tournament, and we finished our series with Youngstown, played them well, and we were sitting at an Outback

Steakhouse and watching the live stats and, we saw that Canisius won on a walk-off hit, and we all went crazy."

When he left Rider, Lipinski still desired to be close to the field and involved in baseball.

"Initially, I really wanted to teach high school and coach high school

baseball," he said. "Probably my sophomore and junior year, I kinda expressed that I wanted to coach after playing, and I expressed that to Coach Davis, and he was pretty interested in keeping me on and I graduated in 2016, played in 2017 as my fifth year and 2018 was my first year coaching."

Now as the hitting coach, the Broncs have had a breakout season in terms of offensive production with the team scoring ten runs or more in two of their three-game series against St. John's on April 1 and 2.

Junior infielder Luke Lesch praised Lipinski as the hitting coach.

"I think he's a big factor why we have had some success offensively this year so far. Whenever we are hitting during practice, he is always putting us in game situations to put pressure on us, so when the real game comes, it feels like we have been there before," Lesch said.

Junior outfielder Brendan O'Donnell talked about how great Lipinski has been to him personally and for the entire team.

"Coach Lipinski is the type of coach who is willing to work with anybody on any part of their game. Personally, he's been a huge help to me with the mental side of my game. He also played at this level, so having someone who's been in our shoes and has experienced similar situations, [which] allows him to better understand where we as players are physically and mentally," O'Donnell said.

With all the praise Lipinski receives as the hitting coach, he still thinks it's a team effort.

"It's definitely a team effort.

Our guys are borderline addicted to hitting. I was in our indoor facility on Monday, and that's our off day, and a couple guys asked me to come hit with them at 2 p.m. and I came back at 8 p.m. and the same guys were still there, so they're dedicated," Lipinski said.

Davis, who has been the head coach at Rider for almost two decades, said how much of an asset Lipinski is to the program.

"I turned the hitting coaching responsibilities over to him once he started coaching with us in 2018. He has improved greatly as a coach, and our team's success at the plate is a reflection of his tutelage," he said.

Lipinski found a home in Rider and hopes to coach at his alma mater for years on.

"I love it here. I'm comfortable here. This is home for me," Lipinski said. "I moved up here in 2013 from Baltimore not knowing anybody or anything about New Jersey, and this has been home for me for the last 10 years, and as long as they'll have me, I'll stay and I'll help us to the best of my ability."

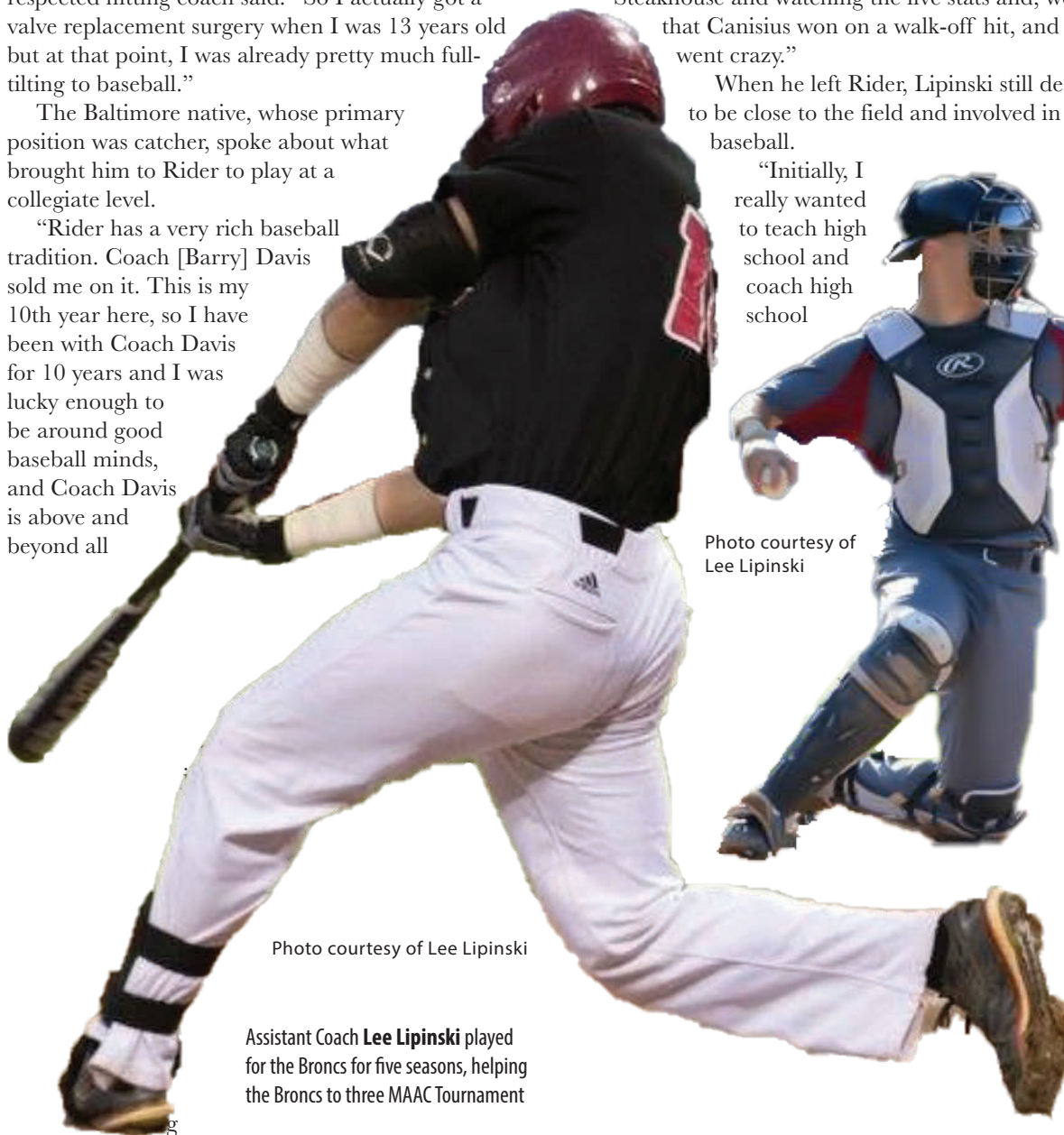


Photo courtesy of Lee Lipinski

Photo courtesy of Lee Lipinski

Assistant Coach **Lee Lipinski** played for the Broncs for five seasons, helping the Broncs to three MAAC Tournament



Photo courtesy of Lee Lipinski

Assistant Coach **Lee Lipinski (No. 18)** joined the coaching staff in 2018, with the 2022 season being his fifth as an assistant coach.



# Sports

ONLINE

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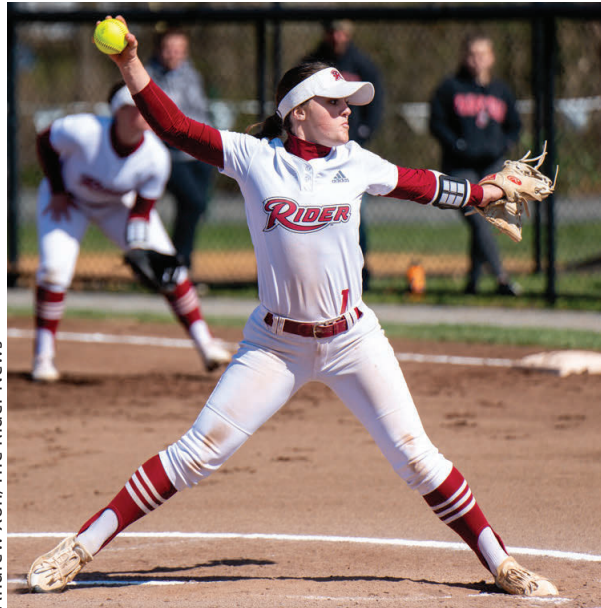
Sophomore pitcher Anna-Marie Groskritz's energetic and fun personality shows on and off the field.

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## SOFTBALL

# Broncs register first no-hitter in 10 years in three-win weekend



Andrew Xon/The Rider News

Sophomore **Jessie Niegocki** pitched the program's first no-hitter in almost 10 years against Fairfield on April 2.

By **Trey Wright and Jake Tiger**

**R**IDER softball saw its best individual pitching performance in a decade with the program recording its first no-hitter in 10 years on April 2. It was part of a stretch on April 2 and April 4 that saw the Broncs jump out to a 3-1 start in conference play.

### Pitching perfection

Entering Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) competition at 13-9, Rider softball passed its first conference test with flying colors, defeating the Fairfield Stags in a double-header on April 2, thanks to pitch-perfect performances on the mound.

The first game was off to a slow start for Rider getting its first player on base in the bottom of the third.

However, fielding and excellent pitching from sophomore Anna-Marie Groskritz kept Fairfield's offense at bay tossing seven scoreless frames.

In the bottom of the eighth, senior shortstop Gianna Epps singled to center field followed by junior catcher Elena Gonzalez, knocking another ball to center field, ending the game in a 1-0 win for Rider.

The back half of the double header was much of the same on the bump, with sophomore pitcher Jessie Niegocki, being excellent. She set the tone in the top of the first with a strikeout and two popouts.

Rider's offense clicked early in the batter's box with Niegocki leading off with a double on the first pitch she saw.

Eight runs were scored in game two, with the mercy rule being called after four-and-a-half innings.

The support was more than enough for Niegocki, who struck out five batters and recorded the first no-hitter for the program in almost 10 years to the day, when Rachael Matreale threw one on April 7, 2012, against Saint Peter's.

"I honestly didn't even know it happened until it happened and they announced it at the end of the game," said Niegocki on the no-hitter. "But it feels pretty good, especially to go from a relief role last year to filling more of a role this year."

After the Diane Fulham '89 Bullpen was dedicated earlier before both games, it was only fitting that stellar pitching led the Broncs to victory, in honor of one of the all-time greats for Rider softball.

### 'Just the way it falls sometimes'

While the Rider Broncs and Iona Gaels were ready for a long day of softball on April 4, they likely were not expecting a 19-inning battle of attrition.

Rider softball earned a hard fought 5-4 win after 10 innings in the first game of its doubleheader against Iona, before dropping the second game 7-4.

"We scored first, and I think we just got complacent because we typically score a lot of runs," said Head Coach Davon Ortega. "I think we sat on our runs and we mentally just had a letdown."

In game one of the doubleheader, the Broncs entered the top of the seventh with a 3-0 and a chance to seal the deal, but the Gaels ended up taking the lead thanks to a miraculous four-run rally off of sophomore pitcher Groskritz.

Fortunately for Rider, it was able to respond, as Gonzalez doubled to left-center field, allowing junior outfielder Amanda Cooper to score the equalizing run.

The Broncs later claimed victory in the 10th inning, after a perfect bunt by junior outfielder Alyssa Ansara brought freshman outfielder Kellie Ervin home.

The second game of Rider's doubleheader told a similar story, with the Broncs claiming an early 3-1 lead behind stellar two-way play from sophomore pitcher Niegocki. Niegocki went 3-for-5 at the plate with an RBI.

However, just like the first game, Rider's lead suddenly slipped through its fingers.

Iona tied the game at four after a three-run rally in the top of the sixth, sparked by a solo home run by Iona's Jessica Chilcott.

"We did not make an adjustment offensively," said Ortega. "We had every opportunity to win and we didn't do that. They came out and they did."

Another homer by the Gaels in the ninth gave them 6-4 lead and an eventual win.

"I think we just fell off defensively in both situations. [In the] first game, we still did enough to keep us in it, second game we didn't," said Niegocki. "That's just the way it falls sometimes."

Rider softball will look to get the ball rolling again on April 6 with another home doubleheader, this time taking on Drexel University.

## BASEBALL

# Rider wins two of three against St. John's

By **Andrew Smolar and Luke Lombardi**

**R**IDER baseball faced off against nonconference opponent St. John's on April 1 and April 2, winning two of three games against the Red Storm. The Broncs defeated St. John's on April 1 13-3 and beat them again on April 2 13-6.

### Starting strong

The Broncs earned their fifth consecutive victory on April 1 with a 13-3 victory over visiting St. John's.

Despite going down 1-0 early, the offense responded in a big way with four runs in the second, three in the third and five in the fourth to completely turn the tide. Head Coach Barry Davis was pleased with how his team responded.

"We had some productive at bats and excellent baserunning during that stretch. We put an emphasis on having positive at bats," said Davis. "Once we went ahead 12-3 the game settled and we were able to pitch effectively and not let them back in the game."

It was an especially big game offensively for redshirt sophomore Jordan Erbe who went 2-4 with three RBIs.

"It was a solid team effort today. It definitely felt good to get the bats going early and often," said Erbe. "I really think we have yet to play our best baseball, which is exciting considering the recent success we have had."

Despite a rough early start, Rider's pitching got the job done, allowing only a total of three runs and shutting out St. John's for the final six innings.

Graduate student Joe Papeo pitched five innings of three-run ball. He then gave way to senior Danny Kirwin and freshman Brian Young who finished the final four innings without giving up a run.

### 'Control what we can'

Baseball saw its five-game winning streak come to an end thanks to a 9-0 loss to St. John's in game one of a doubleheader on April 2.

It was the first time Rider has been shut out in over three weeks, the last time being a March 11 contest with East Tennessee State. The Broncs had just four hits in the seven-inning game.

"We can only control what we can control," said Davis. "Umpire calls, wind, cold, errors, how the other team plays. We still have to remain focused on one pitch at a time."

St. John's had four hits and four runs in the third inning alone. They added five more in the sixth, including a grand slam to provide all the offense they needed in the 9-0 victory.

"I'd say that you know you go out and you try to win every single game you play, but obviously that's not going to happen," said redshirt senior Jake Barbieri.

The Broncs finished the day and doubleheader with a bang, winning 13-6 over St. John's.

By the time a spectator could blink, Rider was already up 5-0 after two innings with runs being scored on a single, double, fly out and ground out. St. John's tried to come back with a home run in the third, but



Carolo Pascale/The Rider News

Junior infielder **Jack Winsett** recored three hits and senior outfielder **Alex Diamantis** recorded one hit in the win on April 2.

the Broncs responded with another run of their own.

The two teams went back and forth exchanging runs until junior first baseman Luke Lesch hit a grand slam, putting Rider up 12-3.

"I like our team. I like what we do," said Davis. "I like the style that we're playing in. I have to adapt my coaching style to the players that I have because I can't force guys who can't run to run. I can't force guys to bunt who aren't great bunters, but I can let guys hit who can hit and have guys bunt and run who can."

The Broncs will travel to the University of Delaware hoping to get revenge for the series loss earlier in the season on April 6, before hosting Fairfield in a MAAC championship rematch from April 8-10.